

Abstract: In Search of The Perfect Vario

Everyone wants a better vario. But what exactly do we want? How will we get there?

- What I think we really want (also not what you might think)
- Thermals and what they really do (not what you might think)
- TE Vario Problems (why TE does not really work in modern gliders)
- A few words about sensors (resolution-speed-noise, sensors now available for new instruments)
- Quick survey of efforts to build something better
- What's possible, and approach?
- Other things we must do in future to improve instrumentation

Speaker Bio: Dave Nadler

Dave has flown ~4600 hours in sailplanes (including ~2200 in motor-gliders).

In soaring circles, Dave is best known as the principal designer of the popular ILEC SN10 integrated vario and flight computer system, flown by thousands of pilots worldwide, in everything from Blanik trainers to super-ships in the world championships, and in 20 different countries. Dave was also one of the PowerFLARM developers, and a leader in bringing FLARM to USA. Dave currently represents USA on OSTIV's Sailplane Development Panel and Working Group on Electric Propulsion.

Professionally Dave has spent much of his career as a consultant, with stints leading teams of up to 250 engineers, building lots of products, and in many "fix this mess" roles resolving technical and management problems. These days Dave consults on industrial measurement instruments (for aerospace, pharmaceutical, and semiconductor manufacturing) and fiddles with vario research.

